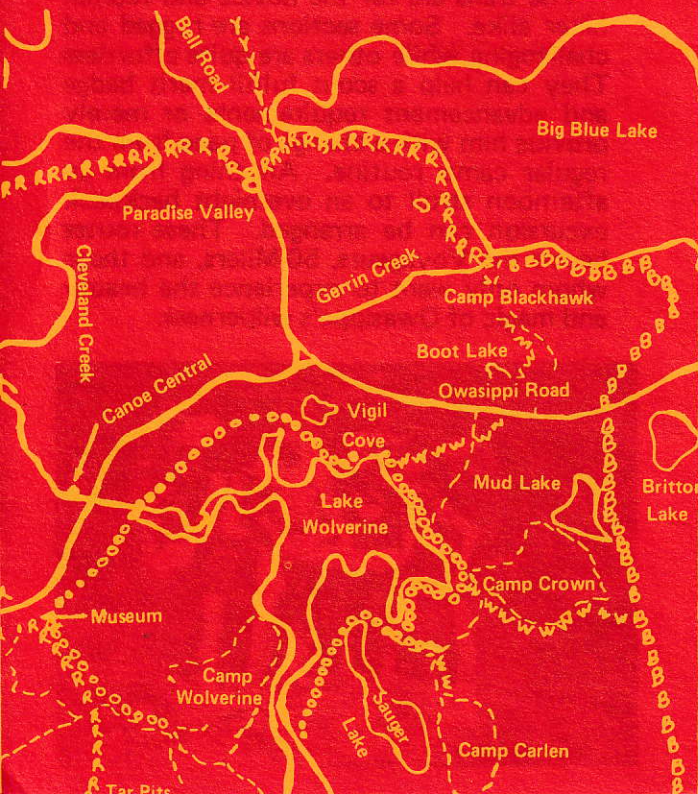


1986



# THE WASIPPE TRAILS

**THE**  
**75th**  
**ANNIVERSARY**





## INTRODUCTION

The time-tested trails of Owasisippe remain as its oldest operating program resource dating back to the camp's origin in 1910. As a matter of fact, many of these routes predate Owasisippe as Indian passages, pioneer trails and lumberjack roads. These trails traverse the entire reservation for miles cutting through some of the most scenic and historic locations of Muskegon County and the Manistee National Forest.

The trails are for the novice and veteran hiker alike. Some sections are rugged and challenging while others are quite effortless. They can help a scout fulfill merit badge and advancement requirements or merely provide him with a change of pace from the regular camp routine. Anything from an afternoon stroll to an overnight backpack excursion can be arranged. These routes becom the Voyageurs, 50-Milers, and those whom only want to experience the beauty and magic of Owasisippe's wilderness.





## THE RED TRAIL

This route connects Big Blue Lake to Owasippe Lake through the western part of the reservation. Its distance is roughly 8 miles. This is ideal for beginners, as its terrain is mostly flat with a few sections of rolling hills. The northern end of the trail begins at Camp Blackhawk which is located along the banks of Big Blue Lake. The trail begins at Camp Blackhawk which is located along the banks of Big Blue Lake. The trail ends at Owasippe Lake which is the location of the original Owasippe camps; Beard, West and Stuart. The development of this property began in 1911 and remnants of the camps can still be seen as you traverse the property. In fact, hikers claim if they are real quiet and sit along the bank of the lake they can still hear the shouts of fun of all the scouts that camped in this area over the years.

## HIGHLIGHTS ALONG THE WAY

- Big Blue Lake
- Camp Blackhawk
- Gerken Creek
- Pickerel Pond
- Paradise Valley
- Krier's Crossing
- Cleveland Creek
- Owasippe's Grave
- Dance Hall Ruins
- Pierre's Bayou
- Ad Center
- E. Urner Goodman Museum
- Tar Pits
- Ron's Hollow
- Ben's Hollow
- The Desert
- Silver Creek Headwaters
- Water Tower
- Mud Lake
- Camps Beard and West
- Owasippe Lake

## THE BLUE TRAIL

This trail also connects Owasippe and Big Blue Lakes, however it tracks east and south of Lake Wolverine. It has a distance of approximately 12 miles. The trail has a greater level of difficulty and is more suited for older scouts or experienced hikers. Its terrain is more rugged and forested consisting also of numerous streams and bogs. The challenge of this wilderness route is complemented by its inspiring scenery and natural wonders.

### HIGHLIGHTS ALONG THE WAY:

- Big Blue Lake
- Camp Blackhawk
- Boot Lake
- Mud Lake
- Eagle Springs
- Kingsley's Dam
- Cleveland Creek (east and west forks)
- Bass and Nine Acre Lakes
- Marl Beds
- Quaking Bogs
- Marl Springs
- The Jungle
- Crystal Lake
- Teall Swamp
- Hidden Creek
- Pocket Valley
- Camp Stuart
- The Parade Grounds
- Austin Lake
- Grasshopper Hill
- Echo Lake
- Camp West
- Owasippe Lake

*LET'S PRESERVE  
OUR NATURAL WILDERNESS*



## THE ORANGE TRAIL

This trail completely follows the edge of Lake Wolverine, a man made reservoir created in the late 40's as part of the Wolverine Club. It follows the bed of Cleveland Creek, at one time one of the best trout streams in Michigan. Today, Lake Wolverine is home to a popular game fish, the large-mouth bass. The western half of the trail is fairly level while the southern and eastern segments are hilly. The marked trail is approximately 5 miles in length.

Aside from the camps circling the lake, the area is devoid of human habitation but is the home of many wild animals and interesting vegetation. Many scenes are breathtaking, so camera buffs should be kept busy. Lake Wolverine is visited often by the American Bald Eagle, the Great Blue Heron and Canadian Geese. Tracks of white tail deer will be everywhere and, occasionally, you'll be startled by the takeoff of a quail or grouse. Beavers and muskrats are plentiful at the southern end of the lake.

## HIGHLIGHTS ALONG THE WAY

- E. Urner Goodman Museum
- Lake Wolverine
- Gus Kopp Dam
- Guest Lodge
- Vigil Cove
- The Ultimate Challenge
- Camp Robert Crown
- Perz Bayou
- Bauer Bridge
- Camp Carlen
- Sauger Lake
- Deuces Wild
- Kingsley's Dam
- Dam No. 3
- Camp Wolverine South
- Camp Wolverine

## THE WHITE TRAILS

These connecting trails are offshoots of the established trails which take the hiker to a particular point of interest or which will connect one trail to another making varying trips possible.

## **THE YELLOW TRAIL**

The yellow trail is a high adventure trail which begins at the western end of Big Blue Lake, off the red trail. The trail heads northwest crossing the White River at County line bridge. After the bridge the trail heads northeast along the White River. The trail continues along the White River ending at the North Branch (Camp Splitter). This is the location where the Voyagers will pick up their canoes. Points of interest include rollaways, campsites and beautiful scenery.

### **TRAIL PROGRAMS**

**DAY HIKES** - Day hikes are recommended for troops or several scouts using combination of the trails outlined in this brochure. The hikers could pack a lunch, leave after breakfast and return before dinner.

**OVERNIGHT TROOP HIKES** - Through a combination of trails outlined in this brochure a troop could leave camp after breakfast one day, camp out on the trail and return the next day never traversing over the same ground.

**OVERNIGHT OR DAY TROOP HIKE CANOE TRIP** - An overnight or day combination hiking and canoeing experience. A troop could leave camp after breakfast, hike several hours and canoe back before dinner; or, hike a day, stay overnight on the trail and canoe back the next day.

**VOYAGUER PROGRAM** - A high adventure, 3 day, combination hiking - canoeing program for 2 but not more than 4 older scouts.

**SEE YOUR COMMISSIONER FOR DETAILS** and enjoy the beauty of Owasisippe through a combination of scenic, well marked trails and beautiful river basins. Recognition awards are available.

***SEE YOU ON THE TRAILS!***

The renovation of the trails and this brochure are provided through the efforts of  
**THE OWASIPPE STAFF ASSOCIATION**